

REMARKS

Claims 1-39 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 40-45 have been added. Claim 40 is independent.

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue of this application are requested.

CLAIM TO PRIORITY

Applicant hereby claims priority under the International Convention and all rights to which he is entitled under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based upon the following Japanese Priority Applications:

265819/2000, filed September 1, 2000, and

255145/2001, filed August 24, 2001.

Certified copies of the priority documents were submitted in the parent application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to MPEP § 609, Applicant understands that the Examiner will, as part of his examination of this application, consider the art of record in the parent application. A form PTO-1449 is enclosed, citing the art of record in the parent application, but, pursuant to MPEP § 609, no new copies of art available in the parent

application are provided herewith; should the Examiner wish to have such submitted, however, Applicant will gladly do so upon request.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. applications:

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>GROUP ART UNIT</u>
09/506,289	2/18/00	2818
09/666,605	9/20/00	2811

One copy of each such U.S. application is enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 6,624,589 issued from Application No. 09/865,698, of record in parent U.S. Patent Application 09/941,780. One copy of U.S. Patent 6,624,589 is enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 6,628,053 issued from Application No. 09/178,680 of record in parent U.S. Patent Application 09/941,780. One copy of U.S. Patent 6,628,053 is enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 6,472,814 issued from Application No. 09/191,342 of record in parent U.S. Patent Application 09/941,780. One copy of U.S. Patent 6,472,814 is enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 6,626,719 issued from Application No. 08/781,206 of record in parent U.S. Patent Application 09/941,780. One copy of U.S. Patent 6,626,719 is enclosed.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0060516 issued from Application No. 09/940,642, of record in parent U.S. Patent Application 09/941,780. One copy of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0060516 is enclosed.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0031972 issued from Application No. 09/940,643, of record in parent U.S. Patent Application 09/941,780. One copy of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0031972 is enclosed.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0057045 issued from Application No. 09/941,595, of record in parent U.S. Patent Application 09/941,780. One copy of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0057045 is enclosed.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0047513 issued from Application No. 09/955,137, of record in parent U.S. Patent Application 09/941,780. One copy of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0047513 is enclosed.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0006684 issued from Application No. 10/106,484, of record in parent U.S. Patent Application 09/941,780. One copy of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0006684 is enclosed.

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0048055 issued from Application No. 10/234,213, of record in parent U.S. Patent Application 09/941,780. One copy of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0048055 is enclosed.

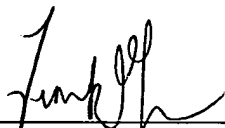
U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0057860 issued from Application No. 10/235,809, of record in parent U.S. Patent Application 09/941,780. One copy of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0057860 is enclosed.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the art cited herein.

CONCLUSION

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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